

of full belligerent rights by the allied authorities, and a long list of precedents is cited to support the validity of the allied censorship methods. It is suggested that the allied censorship be extended to the American memorandum, not binding because it has not been ratified by several belligerent powers, though the allied policy has been guided by the intentions it expresses.

In an informal memorandum submitted some time ago Great Britain pointed out at length the changes made in censorship methods to expedite mail examination. These changes are only referred to briefly in the present communication.

The note is nearly 5,000 words in length. It argues that the United States and the Allies agree that the Postal Union convention does not apply and that postal packages may be examined to see if they contain contraband. That being so, the note contends it is necessary to open postal bags and examine them cannot be done without delay and inconvenience. Arrangements now have been made to carry on the examination with the least possible delay and to forward innocent articles to their destination.

**Must Stop Enemy's Use of Mails.**

Although the Hague convention of 1907 has not been accepted by some of the belligerents, the note says the Allies are prepared to accept the principle in the preamble to "prohibit, due to peaceful commerce and legitimate business, but cannot abandon their right to prevent the fraudulent use of the enemy's neutral mails for belligerent purposes. The case of the *Atlanta* is cited to show information can be as useful as means of war as ammunition and the note says information as to military operations and enemy plots in neutral countries, especially the United States, has been discovered in this way.

An examination of precedents is held to show that the great Powers have claimed the right to intercept enemy correspondence in neutral ports. The allied argument follows the line of President Lincoln's proclamation of May 12, 1862, which declared that information as to military operations and enemy plots in neutral countries, especially the United States, has been discovered in this way.

The contention of the United States, the note argues, that they order letters should be classified as genuine mail and not as merchandise does not take into consideration that such letters sent from the United States to Germany and Austria by mail correspondents are intercepted in this country and serve as a notification to postal authorities of the Teutonic Powers to pay out the amounts indicated, increasing the financial resistance of the Allies' enemies. In view of this money order letters are refused passage.

**Why Mail is Examined.**

In connection with the reminder that the United States has agreed that examination of private postal correspondence to ascertain whether it contains contraband is permissible, the note says:

"It is evident that this examination, which necessarily entails the opening of the covers in order to ascertain their contents, could not be carried out on board without involving a great deal of confusion, without causing serious delay to the mails, passengers and cargo, and without great risk of error, loss or destruction. It was for these reasons that the Allies have initiated the removal of the mail bags and their despatches to points provided with the staff and material requisite for prompt and regular handling. In all this the allied Governments have no other purpose but that of eliminating by all means in their power the inconvenience that the exercise of their belligerent rights in regard to enemy mail might cause to innocent neutral correspondence and to neutral vessels."

After asserting that the United States and the Allies are in agreement in principle but differ as to their application, the note, in reply to Secretary Lansing's declaration that the Allies compel neutral ships without just cause to enter their own ports, thus according by force or unjustified means an illegal jurisdiction, says:

"The allied Governments have never differentiated between their treatment of mails on board a neutral vessel on the high seas and those of board a neutral vessel compulsorily diverted to an allied port. They have always recognized that visit carried out in a port to which a vessel has been compulsorily diverted must in this respect be assimilated to visit on the high seas, and the criticism put forward by the United States Government does not therefore appear to them to be justified."

**Search in Allied Ports.**

Defending the practice of exercising jurisdiction and the right of search over a merchant vessel calling of its own accord at an allied port, the note says:

"When a neutral merchant vessel enters an allied port it is legitimate for the authorities of the allied Governments, before giving her clearance, to satisfy themselves that the vessel is carrying nothing hostile to the interests of their national defense. It must be added that the German customs of abusing neutral mails and of forwarding enemy correspondence, even official correspondence bearing upon hostilities, under apparently innocuous cover, sent from one neutral port to another, has rendered necessary the supervision of mails in transit to or from countries adjacent to Germany exactly as in the case of mails in transit to or from Germany itself. But it need hardly be said that in the case of correspondence between neutrals, which is not used as a cloak for such abuses, there are no grounds for apprehension."

Contending that the practice followed by the Powers in former wars establishes the general rule of the right to examine mails outside of territorial waters, the note amplifies that argument in the following terms:

"On the 19th of July, according to international law, it is for the belligerents to search for and prevent operations of transport or other services by which neutral vessels can give cooperation and assistance to the hostile operations of the enemy. A few lines of a letter conveyed to the enemy may be as useful or even more useful to his warlike operations than a cargo of arms and ammunition. Experience in the course of the present war has in fact demonstrated the truth of this observation. Hostile acts have failed which had been planned through the mails. Dangerous plots, which the enemy does not even spare neutral countries, have been detected in the mails and foiled."

**Neutral Rights Defined.**

The note concludes: "The American memorandum lays great stress on the fact that the rights of neutrals and of belligerents are equally sacred and must be strictly observed. The allied Governments for their part are fully aware of this view. They are sincerely endeavor-

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ing to avoid any encroachment on the legitimate exercise of the rights of offensive neutral commerce through the exercise of their own belligerent rights. But they consider that they are within their belligerent rights in exercising on the high seas the control recognized by international law as accorded to them, in order to prevent all transport destined to furnish assistance to their enemy in the conduct of the war and to maintain his resistance.

"The rights of the United States, as a neutral Power, cannot in their opinion include that of protection given by the Federal Government to despatches, parcels, correspondence or communications of whatever nature they may be, which have a hostile character, manifest or disguised, and a hostile destination, direct or indirect; such communication can only be carried on by private American citizens at their proper risk, and peril. This is the very principle which has been expressly cited by the President of the United States in his proclamation of neutrality.

"Finally, if any faults, abuses or serious mistakes, alleged to have been committed by the allied authorities responsible for the examination of mails, are brought to the attention of the Governments of France and Great Britain, the latter will be prepared, as they always have been, to determine the responsibility and to take the requisite measures in conformity with the principles of law and justice, from which it is not and never has been their intention to depart."

### NORWAY BARS U-BOATS.

Only Permitted if on Surface and Flying National Colors.

CHRISTIANIA, Norway, Oct. 14.—King Haakon has approved an ordinance forbidding submarines of belligerent Powers from traversing Norwegian waters except in cases of emergency, when they must remain on the surface and fly the national flag. Any ship violating the ordinance will be attacked by armed forces.

Merchant submarines are only to be allowed in Norwegian waters on the surface in full daylight and flying the national colors. The ordinance takes effect October 20.

OSLO, Oct. 14.—Discussing the Norwegian protest against the sinking of the Norwegian steamer and the order of the Norwegian Government prohibiting submarines from using the waters of Norway, the *Cologne Gazette* says that while the undersea boats do not depend on Norwegian harbors such vessels may at times suffer damage which would oblige them to take refuge in the nearest port—an incontestable right for any ship.

"In such a case," says the newspaper, "even England could not protect Norway against a severe and effective answer from the German side."

### NOT HALF A CROP IN CANADA.

Output of Dominion Officially Estimated at 150,125,000 Bushels.

OTTAWA, Oct. 14.—The wheat crop of Canada for the present year will be only 150,125,000 bushels, according to an official estimate issued today.

The crop in 1915 was 276,908,600 bushels.

The average yield per acre was estimated at 16 1/2 bushels from a harvested area of 10,055,200 acres, as compared with 19 bushels from a harvested area of 12,986,400 acres in 1915.

A marked decrease in oats was indicated by estimated yield of 23,449,000 bushels from 9,192,000 acres, an against last year's production of 32,103,000 bushels from 11,345,000 acres. Barley was estimated at 32,296,000 bushels from 1,238,800 acres, against 33,331,300 bushels from 1,509,350 acres.

Rye was announced as 2,055,500 bushels from 101,420 acres, against 2,391,100 bushels in 1915 from an acreage of 112,800.

### GERMANS DENY POISON STORY.

Circulation of Report of Aero Raid Called "Shameless and Mean."

BERLIN, via Bayville, Oct. 14.—The British wireless service states that German seaplanes which attacked Constantia, Rumania, recently dropped poisoned sweets and bombs infected with cholera bacilli," says the Overseas News Agency. "The shamelessness and mean-ness of such statements can be appraised only by the credulity and stupidity which the British attribute to their allies."

The statement referred to by the Overseas News Agency evidently is an official Russian announcement of October 12 which said aeroplanes which attacked Constantia dropped poisoned sweets and garlic infected with cholera bacilli.



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## ITALIANS GAIN MORE ON CARSO PLATEAU

Position on Sober Ridge Is Extended—Vienna Asserts the Attacks Failed.

LONDON, Oct. 14.—More Italian success in the drive down the Carso plateau to Trieste is reported by the Italian War Office today. More of the Sober ridge, southeast of Gorizia, has been occupied. Other new positions consolidated and parties sent out to feel the way for more attacks. Abandoned arms and ammunition have been captured in quantities. The War Office statement says: "In the Trentino there were artillery duels in the Pasubio area. At the head of the Vanoi-Ciamon Valley during the

night of October 13 an attempted attack against our positions on Bussa Alta and Point 2056 was checked. In the Upper But Valley (Carnio Alps) the enemy artillery was very active. Our batteries replied by shelling Hutten on the opposite slopes of Monte Palpiccolo.

"Southeast of Gorizia our troops extended their occupation of the Sober ridge northward as far as the road from San Pietro to Prebaccina. Some prisoners were taken, as well as a large quantity of arms and ammunition which had been abandoned by the enemy.

"On the Carso plateau the day was comparatively calm and we took advantage of it to strengthen and consolidate positions recently occupied. Our reconnoitering parties captured about 100 prisoners, most of whom were wounded.

"Our aeroplanes dropped bombs on the enemy town of Hutten, in the Sugana valley, and returned safely. In the evening enemy aircraft made the usual raid on the Lower Isonzo without doing any damage.

The Austrian statement of Friday asserts that the Italian attacks on Thursday were weak and were mainly nipped in the bud by artillery. The

Italian statement of that day's fighting reported the repulse of Austrian counter attacks and some Italian success.

Today's Austrian report says: "The eighth great Italian storming attack may be considered as repulsed. Even more than in previous battles the enemy on this occasion had concentrated his forces against the southern wing. Between the sea and the heights east of Gorizia the third army and portions of the second army, altogether about sixteen infantry divisions, with the most powerful artillery and numerous bomb mortar batteries, were launched in the attack.

"The heroic defenders of the Carso endured the heaviest fire for a week and then withstood for three days uninterrupted attacks by a numerically superior enemy until his losses compelled him to cease the attack."

**Heavy Enrolment at Williams.**

WILLIAMSTOWN, Mass., Oct. 13.—All previous enrolment records for Williams were broken by the registration for the college year 1916-17, 548 men being listed in the present undergraduate body. Of this total 110 men are seniors, 168 are juniors and 159 are sophomores.

## AMERICAN IN FRANCE GETS FIVE YEAR TERM

W. C. Silberman of New York Is Sentenced for "Trading With Enemy."

PARIS, Oct. 14.—William Chester Silberman of New York has been sentenced by the Correctional Court to five years in prison and 500 francs fine on a charge of "trading with the enemy."

Silberman, according to the prosecution, came to Paris with papers describing him as the representative of the King Rubber Company. On the strength of these papers he obtained several important orders. He was denounced by a Serbian who had known him in New York, who said he was act-

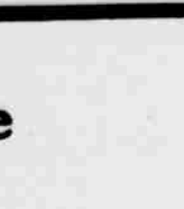
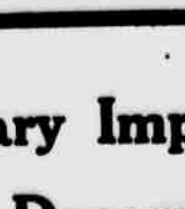
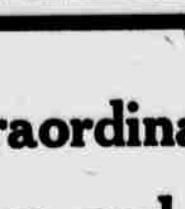
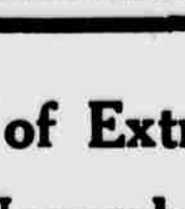
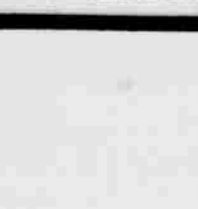
ing for Gottlieb, Scheffer & Co., 599 Broadway, New York, a firm with German affiliations.

BOSTON, Oct. 14.—Maurice Kingsbury, secretary of the King Rubber Company, said today that William C. Silberman represented that company in Paris as an agent. "His only capacity was our knowledge was to sell rubber goods to the warring nations," Mr. Kingsbury said.

Company officials, according to the secretary, did not know anything about Silberman except that he was recommended by their New York agent, Gottlieb, Scheffer & Co., as a representative in the matter to the State Department at Washington.

**Edison Back in Spoken Drama.**

LONG BRANCH, N. J., Oct. 14.—Robert Edison returned to the spoken drama here to-night after an absence of three years, in a play by Robert Porter called "His Brother's Keeper." The supporting cast includes Stella Archer, Art Macdonald, Ada C. Neill, Mabel Cuthbert, Alice Fleming, Mary Downer, Edmund, Clara Greenwood, J. Jerome Lawlor, Wilfred Lytell, Arthur B. Byron and Hallett Hosworth.



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Note—Contrary to the general custom of the Association, it has permitted, by reason of their unique character and great value, a reserve price to be placed by Prof. Volpi upon 20 items of his remarkable collection, and such items will be identified in the catalogue by an \*.

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